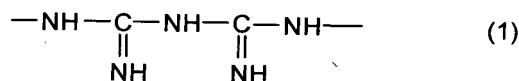


**Amendments to the Claims:**

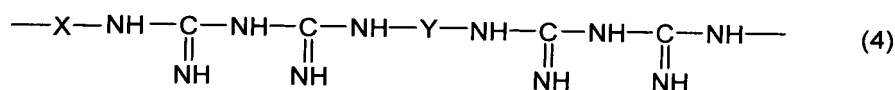
The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Original) An air-filter for a circulating and/or recirculating air system comprising a filter medium containing a microbiologically effective amount of a polymeric biguanide or salt thereof.
2. (Original) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymeric biguanide contains at least two biguanide units of the Formula (1):



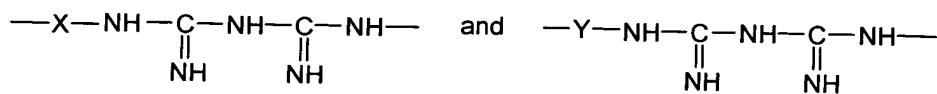
which are linked by a bridging group which contains at least one methylene group.

3. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymeric biguanide is a mixture of linear polymeric biguanides having a recurring polymer chain represented by Formula (4):



wherein X and Y represent bridging groups in which together the total number of carbon atoms directly interposed between pairs of nitrogen atoms linked by X and Y is more than 9 and less than 17.

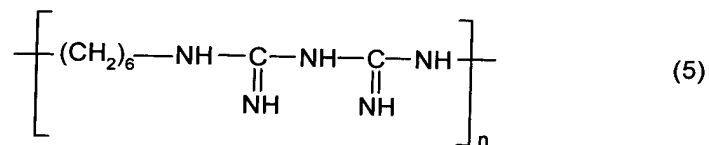
4. (Original) An air-filter as claimed in claim 3 which is a mixture of polymers wherein the number of individual biguanide units of formulae:



is, together, from 3 to about 80.

5. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 3 wherein the polymeric biguanide is poly(hexamethylene biguanide) in which X and Y are both  $-(\text{CH}_2)_6-$ .

6. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymeric biguanide is a mixture of polymers of the Formula (5):



wherein n is from 4 to 40.

7. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the polymeric biguanide is in the form of a hydrochloride salt.

8. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the filter medium is made from a natural polymer or synthetic plastics material.

9. (Original) An air-filter as claimed in claim 8 wherein the natural polymer is cellulose.

10. (Previously amended) An air-filter as claimed in claim 1 wherein the amount of polymeric biguanide contained on the filter medium is from 0.0001% to 10% based on the weight of the filter medium.

11. (Previously amended) A air-filter according to claim 1 further comprising an odour control agent.

12. (Original) A method of reducing odours and/or air-borne micro-organisms in circulating and/or recirculated air which comprises passing air through a filter medium containing a polymeric biguanide or salt thereof.

13. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the air has a relative humidity between 20% and 80%.

14. (Original) A method for protecting a filter medium of a circulating and/or recirculating air system against microbial degradation which comprises incorporating in, or on, the medium a microbiologically effective amount of a polymeric biguanide or salt thereof.